

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 022103

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ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 RSC-01 /021 R

DRAFTED BY COM/BEWT/TPD/562/LUNKOVIC/LWH

APPROVED BY EB/OCA/REP/BEBYRON

COM/BEWT/TPD/BATHOMPSON

STATE/EUR/SOV/JCOLBERT

COM/BEWT/USSR/HHEISS

STATE/EB/EWT/MLORIMER

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P R 302240Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

UNCLAS STATE 022103

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, XG

SUBJECT: MARCH OIL/GAS EXHIBIT/SEMINAR

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE SUMMARY OF THE STEWART AND STEVENSON TECHNICAL PAPER.

2. THE GENERAL SCOPE OF THIS PAPER IS TO DISCUSS NEW DESIGN AND TESTING METHODS USED IN DEVELOPMENT OF BLOWOUT PREVENTION EQUIPMENT EXPOSED TO EXTREMELY LOW TEMPERATURES AND OTHER HAZARDS THE RESULT FROM APPLICATION IN THE ARCTIC ENVIRONMENT.

(A) BLOWOUT PREVENTERS; APPLICATION AT SUBZERO TEMPERATURES WILL GREATLY AFFECT THE FUNCTIONING OF BLOW-OUT PREVENTER STEEL AND RUBBER COMPONENTS. PRECAUTIONS MUST BE TAKEN TO ASSURE FULL INTEGRITY OF PRESSURE CONFINING BODIES AND SEALING CAPABILITY OF ELASTOMER SEALS UNDER THE MOST SEVERE CONDITIONS EXPECTED. SELECTION OF MATERIALS IS BASED ON METALLURGICAL CONSIDERATIONS AIMED AT OBTAINING HIGH RESISTANCE TO BRITTLE FAILURE

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PAGE 02 STATE 022103

UNDER CONDITIONS OF HIGH STRESS CONCENTRATION (HIGH NOTCH

TOUGHNESS) AND SIMULTANEOUSLY MEETING ALL REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVICE IN A SOUR GAS ENVIRONMENT. RUBBER PARTS, ESPECIAL-

LY SEALING ELEMENTS FOR ANNULAR AND RAM TYPE PREVENTERS, MUST BE COMPOUNDED FOR LOW TEMPERATURE FLEXIBILITY. SIZE AND WEIGHT OF EQUIPMENT MUST BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED BECAUSE OF LIMITATIONS RESULTING FROM USAGE WITH DRILLING RIGS DESIGNED FOR HELICOPTER AIRLIFT.

(B) BLOWOUT PREVENTER CONTROLS; THE EXPERIENCE GAINED THROUGH THE YEARS WITH EQUIPMENT WORKING IN THE ALASKAN ARCTIC, CANADIAN ARCTIC AND THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS OF THE WESTERN U.S. HAS HELPED IMPROVE THE RELIABILITY OF THE EQUIPMENT TO WHAT IT IS TODAY.

(C) EQUIPMENT USED IN SUBZERO AREAS OF THE WORLD IS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM EQUIPMENT USED IN WARM AREAS OF THE WORLD. THE MAIN DIFFERENCES ARE PUMPS AND REMOTE CONTROLS. ALSO IN BUILDING SUBZERO EQUIPMENT SIZE AND WEIGHT MUST BE KEPT IN MIND AT ALL TIMES BECAUSE OF THE MAJOR TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS THAT EXIST IN THESE (SUB-

ZERO) AREAS OF THE WORLD.

(D) STEWART AND STEVENSON HAS REVISED THE LIST OF

PERSONNEL. JOHN RUNION WILL NOT ATTEND. IN HIS PLACE WILL BE JOHN D. MCLAIN, BORN FEB. 7, 1940, IN HOUSTON, TEXAS. HE IS MANAGER OF SUBSEA DRILLING SALES AND WILL PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AT THE EXHIBITION. HE WILL ARRIVE MARCH 14 AND DEPART MARCH 22. KISSINGER

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